



← March Hare

# Thunder River World-Guardian

March, 2018

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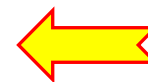
Vol. VI, No 3

The **Premiere** Cowboy Action Shooting Club in Grimes County, Texas

9/10 of a mile north of the Texas Renaissance Festival Main Entrance—look for the Red, White and Blue sign



[Click here for printable Monthly Match Calendars](#)



**!! Match this Saturday:** March 3<sup>rd</sup>: full match of six stages; registration cut off **9:30**

**Jan 27 Match:** nothing like light rain, stiffing breeze building throughout the day and seriously mudding ground conditions to improve our shooting match. Twenty-seven die hards spit in Mother Nature's face and had a great time no matter what the weather.

The stages were a good mix of speed and thinking which keeps everyone on their toes. We are still at a loss as to what great cowboy painted all the targets but they were complimented for their effort during the match.

The area from the Cattle Co storage building to the Leather Shop was very soft with gun carts leaving furrows in the grass/muc mixture. **Boots** had mud all the way up the back of his boots and loading and unloading while standing in several inches of water was the norm—and we still had fun!

Notable shooters included **Solomon River Kid, Lead Leg Vaquero, Caney Creek Cowboy** and **Doc Jim Harvey**. And before the match **Emery Goodner** was regaling

everyone with **OLD WEST** Stories—some of which might acutally have been true!

**Feb 3:** day turned out to be a repeat of Jan 27 match weatherwise so postponed match a day

**Feb 4:** weather was better so 29 shooters bellied up to the bar and blasted at everything that moved as well as that which didn't. The 2 posses worked their way through the challenges and for some reason we had no clean shooters! Match times were similar to previous contests—the clean matches just weren't there this time—"Oh, bother." as **Poo Bear** would say.

Higher level thinking skills were needed on the stages but not enough to detract from the fun of the event. **Ramblin Gambler** and **Neshannock Leo** returned to the fold and we had multiple couples compete: **Ellie Mae** and **Rawhide, Little Britches** and **Dusty Bottoms, Lorelei Longshot** and **Manassas Jack** plus **GW Ketchum** and **Suzie Q** who is excited with her new long range rifle (we're working on her to get revolvers and join in on **all** the fun)

**Clean Matches Jan 27 and Feb 3: Cherokee Jones, GW Ketchum, cheyenne**

**5% clean: both matches combined**





Not sure if this is **Judge Pete's** JEEP or not

**Practice Day, Feb 10:** turned out to be another sliding and fishtailing trip down our road. It was great as long as no one got stuck, which they didn't but all the vehicles were mud colored by the time everyone got back on FM 1774.

**Nile City Slick** was there to honcho the long range shooters. **Cartwright** and **Ramblin Gambler** showed up to send lead down

range. **Gambler** used two different rifles in his event. **Cartwright** was content to 'dance with the one he brought.' Both did extremely well and earned blue ribbon (or whatever we're giving to our top long range shooters) for their efforts.

**Outlaw Dave** came for practice day with his brand new cart. He is definitely a craftsman in the area of wood. The only problem I could see what the cart would only hold 5 long guns—everyone knows that 5 rifles/shotguns is only a "start" in cowboy action shooting. I believe we had one more member in attendance but the fire ant bites were taking top billing in my mind and I was heading home with thoughts of calamine lotion filling all my conscious thoughts.



Oakwood Outlaw's annual gala was well represented by TRR members. They had a great time in spite of the Mother Nature and her 'interesting weather,' at least no one froze to death or drown.

- Sunny Spurs:** 1<sup>st</sup>—Lady 49er
- Bristlecone Jan:** 1<sup>st</sup>—Lady SS
- Shotglass:** 1<sup>st</sup>—Lady Senior Duelist
- Hot Tamale:** 1<sup>st</sup>—Classic Cowgirl
- Two Spurs:** 1<sup>st</sup>—Senior Gunfighter
- Texas Jack Daniels:** 1<sup>st</sup>—FC Gunfighter
- Oklahoma Dee:** 1<sup>st</sup>—Senior
- GW Ketchum:** 1<sup>st</sup>—Silver Senior
- Ellie Mae:** 2<sup>nd</sup>—L Wrangler
- Texas Ghost:** 2<sup>nd</sup>—Classic Cowboy
- Red River Raider:** 2<sup>nd</sup>—Silver Senior

- Buckshot Sully:** 2<sup>nd</sup>—Cowboy
- Wildcard Wayne:** 2<sup>nd</sup>—FC Gunfighter
- Three Fingred Jack:** 2<sup>nd</sup>—FC Duelist
- Lead Leg Vaquero:** 3<sup>rd</sup>—Wrangler
- Tanner Wright:** 3<sup>rd</sup>—FC Duelist
- Texas Drifter:** 3<sup>rd</sup>—Elder Statesman
- Fairplay John:** 3<sup>rd</sup>—FC Gunfighter
- Lady Ghost:** 4<sup>th</sup>—Grand Dame
- Osage Mike:** 4<sup>th</sup>—Senior Duelist
- Rawhide:** 6<sup>th</sup>—Senior

Other TRR-ers in attendance were: **Texas Cutie, Diamond Kate, Shell Belle & Shotshell, Justice Lily Kate,** with **Little Britches & Dusty Bottoms** rounding out the group

Click [HERE](#) for pictures

**JAILBREAK**  
By Texas Drifter February 27, 2018

The folks up north did it again  
Good job putting this shoot together  
They had it all planned and under control  
But nobody can control the weather

We all shot it up on Friday and Saturday  
There was even a little sun  
Then Sunday came bringing the north wind  
Some faint hearts said they were done

Everyone else wrapped up in snow gear  
The north wind sucking out life  
It's hard to stay on target when you're shaking  
I'm sure I looked like Barney Fife

We finished it up about mealtime  
Boy that hot food was good  
Hats off to the Oakwood Outlaws  
If you did not thank them, you should

← from [Texas Drifter](#)

of special note is the date on this ☺



## **Gun Safe Humidity Control**

By: **Red River Mac**

When I added a new gun safe to accommodate my growing gun collection, I knew its location in my home would be a problem. The only available space for its size and accessibility would be in the garage. Obviously, the garage environment was not an ideal location for a moisture free safe. That location would lead to a battle with humidity and potential rust. As soon as I finished loading the safe with guns I added a dehumidifier.

This type requires activation by plugging it into an AC electrical outlet for a few hours prior to use. It will then absorb moisture until the internal desiccant becomes saturated. I found that this occurred in a short time period, especially if the safe door was opened frequently. It requires some discipline to remember to check the saturation and reactivate when needed.



After discovering some rust spots on a couple of rifles stored in the safe, I started looking for some other means of controlling the humidity. There are several types of heating devices available that are

recommended for the job. Maybe I don't completely understand the technical details behind these products or, as I suspect, they are primarily intended to be used where climatic temperatures are more reasonable than Houston's. Placing a heater inside a safe that is sitting in a 90 degree plus environment just did not make a lot of sense to me.

I ran across a device that appeared to be ideally suited for the job, the **Eva-Dry Electric Petite Portable Dehumidifier, Model EDV-1100**. It requires an electrical connection inside the safe and my safe was equipped with one. If it had not had an outlet, I would have drilled a ¼" hole in the back of the safe and run an electric cord through it. The unit was available from several sources including Amazon and eBay. Prices range from \$30 to \$50 including shipping.



The next day after installing the Eva-Dry in my safe I checked the water level in its internal collection bucket. It was ¾ full. I emptied it and did not check it again for 2 or 3 days. The water level was again more than half full. It took about a week for the unit to finish drawing water from the air in the safe. Normally, I don't open the safe during the week, only in preparation for a Saturday shoot. It now usually shows just a trace of water in the bucket which indicates that there is little or no moisture present in the safe. My rust problem appears to have been eliminated. I certainly recommend this device to anyone living in the Gulf Coast area who has such a need.



## Don't Shoot the Messenger

by **Texas Drifter**

When there is bad weather

And it keeps us from getting together,  
It's a bitch finding something to do.

If like me you're ready to shoot

All you have to do is slip on a boot,  
The word cancelled is really bad news.

My blood vessels swell

When I get the email,

I print mine and tear it in pieces.

Oh, well there is always the list  
on the fridge, it makes me so pissed  
To put my guns away and wait on Mr. Sun.

I guess I'll get out the old nailgun,

And make believe I'm really having fun,  
At least it has a trigger to pull.



## NOTES FROM OLE SMOKEY



### Long Range

I'll let **Fairplay** give all the nitty gritty details on the gong match in his report. All I'll say is it was sure gratifying to see the smoke and thunder of true black powder take down the pretenders shooting that newfangled smokey-less stuff. It was a perfect foggy day to make lots of smoke and everyone enjoyed seeing and breathing it! ☺

We also had two new shooters get hooked on long range. **Dusty Bottoms** and **Little Britches** came to watch, and ended up shooting the match with a borrowed rifle and ammunition from **GW Ketchum**. Over lunch, they were researching rifles and were planning on buying one to participate on a regular basis. It truly is addictive – in a good way.

Slipshod construction will soon be issuing a call for helpers to get started building our 500-yard shooting platform. Once completed, things will get really interesting on the Open Range.

### Fallen Shooters

Discussions over the last month have resulted in the decision for TRR and WHC to host an annual match in honor of our fallen comrades – tentatively to be called the **Cowboy Muster Match**. We'll hold it on a month with a 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday, and all proceeds over basic expenses will be donated to an organization defending the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment – such as TSRA, NRA, Second Amendment Foundation, etc. We're tentatively scheduling the inaugural match for June 30<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow

### Upcoming Matches

Don't forget the TSRA Regional at Thunder River on March 10<sup>th</sup>. **Texas Ghost** always puts on a good match and we get to slip in another day of shooting during the month without traveling out of town.

And you definitely want to make Comancheria April 12-15. That's always a hoot and who doesn't like to visit Fredericksburg?

I'm looking forward to seeing y'all this coming weekend to make some smoke!

*Blackpowder Burn*

**Open Range Information** Here is the report on the long range match held today.

It turned out to be a beautiful day for shooting long range at TRR today. Granted, there was some fog when we arrived for practice, making the 350 yard target pretty hard to see, but when match time rolled around the fog had lifted. Early in the match the clouds parted and the sun came out making for a beautiful day. We had 8 shooters at the match, including some first time shooters. Neshannock Leo came out and fired a few practice rounds but then his gun decided to longer cooperate. Seems the hammer wouldn't catch on the trigger sear so he stuck around and helped spot, but wasn't able to shoot. Our thanks to Nile City Slick who also came out but didn't shoot. He helped spot and also brought his ATV which was a big help when going down range to paint the targets. Its a long walk down to the 350 yard target and back!

Match winner today by tie breaker was Blackpowder Burn, who we have given the nickname of "Sneaky Squirrel". Seems he let the Blind Squirrel (GW Ketchum) think he was out in front and going to win again, but on the last target, the Sneaky Squirrel came from behind with a splendid performance on the 350 yard target with 4 out of 5 bulls eyes to tie GW with a score of 41. In the case of a tie score at our long range matches, the tie breaker goes to the shooter with the best score on the most distant target, therefore, Blackpowder Burn was declared the match winner. Congratulations to both, though, for some very good shooting.

Some good scores were turned in by Dusty Bottoms and Little Britches, both shooting long range for the first time. They were using a borrowed rifle but now seem hooked as they were spotted searching the internet for a good deal on a suitable rifle. Hats off also to Ramblin' Gambler for shooting with a rifle with sights that weren't really made to be adjusted on the fly. Seems they can be adjusted, with the help of a screwdriver and maybe a small hammer, but that's a hard way to transition between different target distances. For the last target we put a chair on the top of the berm and Gambler could aim at the chair and hit the target. Talk about "Kentucky Windage"!

Seems a good time was had by all. Scores from today's match are an attachment to this email.

*Fairplay*



**We DO need some Stinkin' Badges:** with new members flooding the club we want to revisit how to buy a club badge. **Red River Mac** is handling this for TRR; see his message below:

*Make your check out to me, **L. M. DeBose**, for \$69. You can send it to me at **11535 Clover Lane Ct., Houston, 77066** or wait until you see me at the Range.*

*I will also need the correct spelling of your cowboy alias, and your mailing address.*

**Red River Mac**

**Brass Failures:** a bit of history: when I started under the mentoring of **Lady Wolf** and **Lone Wolf** they used nickel brass for revolver and brass-colored brass for rifle. As they were shooting two different powder loads this helped keep them easily identified. As they knew about all things SASS I followed suit. I ordered 500 each of the two types of brass and have kept to this method since I started shooting in 2002.

After the Feb 4 shoot and while depriming I noticed I had pretty much a 50% failure rate with the nickel brass. Straight brass ones—not so much. All of the problems were cracks (splits) in the case mouths. I did have a few case blow out where the crack ran from the rim to almost the mouth and I remember them as the ones that were hard to extract.

As I am now rapidly losing brass to age and ‘fair wear and tear’ I need to look in another direction (I did run these cases through the annealer multiple times but *all things must come to an end*).

My new method which many of you already do it to color code the heads of the cases with a marker. I use *red for rifle* and *black for revolver*. Since **Slashwood’s** rifle load is different he gets a *green stripe*. These permanent marker colors will come off in the wet tumbler so I don’t have to worry about separating them before I reload

**John Powers, Gunsmith:** new information. Moving: I would like to thank all my customers for the last 17 years here in Magnolia, Texas. I have decided to move back home and will continue to work out of my new shop, which will be twice as large. My new address will be:



Powders Metal Works, LLC  
228 Colorado Rd.  
Duson, Louisiana 70529

Phone number for Texas will remain the same:  
281.513.3438 Cell  
281.254.7881 Fax  
NEW LA number: 337.940.9400

# The Thunder River Mercantile



**Oklahoma Dee Vendor/Services/Products Company** is on line and open for business. **Dee** has been working on this for some time and is proud to announce the start of this business as well as his operational website.

Take a few moments to check out this new and exciting venture.

<http://oklahomadee.com/> or [RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com](mailto:RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com)



**Osage Mike's:** I'm a one man shop building custom leather goods for cowboy action shooters. I build holsters, cartridge belts, shotgun belts and cowboy shooter accessories one at a time. TRR member **Osage Mike**, [jayemgee@msn.com](mailto:jayemgee@msn.com) Phone: 281.785.2397



## Wooden Fully Adjustable Bench Top Shooting Sticks

Made in the U.S.A.

Solid Oak, wood sealed for long life, heavy duty construction, leather strips on uprights to protect rifle, pinned-easy height adjustment, fully adjustable to match

shooting bench height and shooter, collapses for easy transportation.

If anyone is interested in owning one of these bench top shooting sticks built by one of your fellow TRR members please contact Cartwright at [gauth1965@gmail.com](mailto:gauth1965@gmail.com) Currently have 5 ready for delivery shortly after 08 December, also currently orders would take about 2-3 weeks to deliver.

Cost - \$120 Thanks, **Cartwright**



**J M Leather:** is a small leather shop where leather items are crafted one at a time to provide long service to the cowboy shooter. **Johnny** and his wife **Montana Hannah** are cowboy shooters as well and understand getting what you paid for and being treated fair. The promise is a simple one, if you are not happy with your gear, let us make it right. We want you to be proud of the gear you wear, and proud that you got it from us. We are not a big name maker, but we will put our reputation and gear up against anyone. **JohnnyMorris**, [jmorris69007@msn.com](mailto:jmorris69007@msn.com) website: <http://www.jm-leather.com>



After months of anxious anticipation, **Volume Two of the Adventures of Double Dog Darrenger and Gappy Jack Daniels: Deadwood or Bust** was published on December 16, 2017 and is now available. A little late for Christmas, but just in time for that special Epiphany gift or your personal celebration of Elvis Presley's birthday (we don't judge).

Copies will be available at the December 30<sup>th</sup> shoot for the less than kingly sum of \$10. Cheaper than the Amazon price (also available there) and with better delivery!

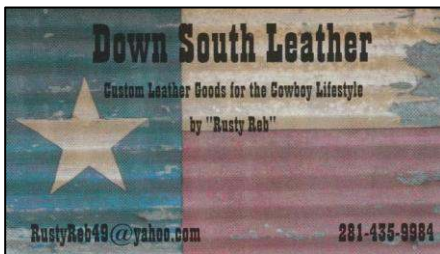


The Misadventures of  
Double Dog Darrenger  
&  
Gappy Jack Daniels  
in  
**DEADWOOD  
or bust**  
Volume Two

**Questman Tales Publishing**  
The Misadventures continue in  
Volume 2 - "**Deadwood or Bust**"  
Available Online Now!  
**Questman Tales Publishing**  
[www.questman-publishing.com](http://www.questman-publishing.com)

For those that were expecting a June 2017 publishing, as announced in the *Cowboy Chronicle*, the author would like to apologize for the delay, but she has been battling some long term cardiac issues and that has been the priority.

[https://www.amazon.com/Deadwood-Bust-Madeleyn-Questman/dp/0999736620/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1514293695&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Deadwood-Bust-Madeleyn-Questman/dp/0999736620/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1514293695&sr=1-1)



**Down South Leather**, Custom Leather Goods for the Cowboy Life Style by **Rusty Reb** is proud to announce the opening of its Houston branch. Contact **Rusty** and discuss your needs and wants; he's only an email or phone call away: [RustyReb49@Yahoo.com](mailto:RustyReb49@Yahoo.com) or 281-435-9984

## **Shooting once a month not enough?**

### **Oakwood Outlaws**

2nd Sat. & Sun. every month and the Monday following the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend. [www.oakwoodoutlaws.org/](http://www.oakwoodoutlaws.org/)

**Willow Hole Cowboys** 3<sup>rd</sup> Weekend of the month <http://www.willowholecowboys.com/>

## TRR Officers 2015

El Jefe: **Blackpowder Burn (BPB)**  
[president@thunderriverrenegades.com](mailto:president@thunderriverrenegades.com)

Vice-Pres: **GW Ketchum**  
[vicepresident@thunderriverrenegades.com](mailto:vicepresident@thunderriverrenegades.com)

Secretary: **cheyenne**  
[secretary@thunderriverrenegades.com](mailto:secretary@thunderriverrenegades.com)

Treasurer: **Osage Mike (Osage)**  
[treasurer@thunderriverrenegades.com](mailto:treasurer@thunderriverrenegades.com)

Range Master: **Oklahoma Dee (OkD)**  
[RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com](mailto:RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com)

TG: **Texas Jack Daniels (TJD)**  
[TXTJD@sbcglobal.net](mailto:TXTJD@sbcglobal.net)



Jail Break Poses





# JAIL BREAK 18



**POSSE 3**

**OAKWOOD TX  
FEBRUARY 9-11 2018**

*Photo by: Blue Bonnet Belle*



# JAIL BREAK 18



**POSSE 8**

**OAKWOOD TX  
FEBRUARY 9-11 2018**

*Photo by: Blue Bonnet Belle*

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### TRR Calendar --February 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 <b>TRR Match</b>
25	26	27	28			

### TRR Calendar --March 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 <b>TRR Match &amp; Election</b>
4 <b>Open Range Gong Match</b>	5	6	7	8	9	10 <b>TSRA Match</b>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 <b>Willow Hole Match</b>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 <b>TRR Match</b>
25	26	27	28	29	30	

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